

Appin No. 09/505951
Amdt. Dated: January 24, 2007
Response to Office Action of December 11, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of December 11, 2006 issued with respect to the present RCE application the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claims 1 and 11 are amended to specify that the random number, the first key and the second key are randomly generated in a non-deterministic manner using physically random phenomena. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at page 97, line 23-page 98, line 23 and page 99, line 9-page 100, line 19 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12-14 and 16-20 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application, nor any new issues to the prosecution of the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of above-described amended independent claims 1 and 11, and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12-14 and 16-20 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by newly cited Carmon et al. (WO 99/10180) in view of any one or more of previously cited Sony, Spies and Schneier, for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended to specify that the random number, the first key and the second key are randomly generated in a non-deterministic manner using physically random phenomena. In this way, the security of not only the random number generated by the trusted printer chip but also of the secret keys stored by both the trusted and consumable untrusted chips can be assured (see page 97, line 23-page 98, line 23 and page 99, line 9-page 100, line 19 of the present specification).

None of Carmon, Sony, Spies and Schneier teach or suggest randomly generating the random number and secret keys in this manner. This is because, Carmon merely discloses a randomly generated number (see page 12, lines 8-12 of Carmon), Sony merely discloses that the control section 11 generates the random number and the key storage section 31 stores a key supplied from the control section 11 (see col. 6, lines 19-22 and col. 8, lines 12-15 of Sony), Spies merely discloses using both public and private keys which are based upon a mathematical relationship in which one key cannot be reasonably calculated from the other key and encrypting the public keys and key exchange pairs with a symmetric cipher using a randomly selected bulk data symmetric encryption key (see col. 8, lines 29-37 and col. 9, lines 30-33 of Spies), and Schneier merely discloses using public and private keys in signature generation/verification.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 11, and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12-14 and 16-20 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Carmon, Sony, Spies and Schneier either taken alone or in combination with one another.

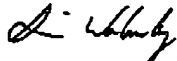
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It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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